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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/053,963	01/22/2002	Aron T. Lunde	37829.0400	5214

7590 08/15/2003

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, KHIEM D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2823

DATE MAILED: 08/15/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/053,963

Applicant(s)

LUNDE, ARON T.

Examiner

Khiem D Nguyen

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 22 January 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2. 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hubacher (U.S. Patent 5,554,940).

In re claims 1, 9, 14 and 22, Hubacher discloses a method for preparing a die on a wafer for testing by a testing apparatus, the method comprising, forming a die (FIG. 10, 10) on a wafer, the die having an active portion comprising integrated circuitry (col. 6, lines 38-64), wherein the die has a plurality of input bond pads (FIG. 10, 12) formed on the active portion; forming a plurality of test pads (FIG. 10, 28) on the die, the plurality of test pads accessible to the testing apparatus (col. 7, lines 31-42), at least one of the plurality of test pads corresponding to at least one of the plurality of input bond pads; forming a conductive path (FIG. 10, 36) between the at least one of the plurality of test pads and the at least one of the plurality of input bond pads, wherein a portion of the conductive path is formed on the die outside of the active portion of the die; and testing the die by contacting the at least one of plurality of test pads with the testing apparatus (FIG. 10, 50).

In re claims 2, 10, 15, and 23, Hubacher discloses wherein the plurality of test pads (FIG. 10, 28) is formed on the active portion of the die (FIG. 10, 10).

In re claims 3, 11, 16, and 24, Hubacher discloses the active portion being surrounded by an inactive portion, wherein the conductive path extends from the at least one input bond pad to the inactive portion and from the inactive portion to the at least one test pad (col. 5, line 14 to col. 7, line 42 and FIGS. 4-10).

In re claims 4, 17, and 25, Hubacher discloses portion of the conductive path is formed on wafer outside of the die.

In re claims 5 and 18, Hubacher discloses severing the conductive path at a point outside of the active portion of the die (FIGS. 4-10).

In re claims 6 and 19, Hubacher discloses severing the conductive path at a point within the inactive portion (FIGS. 4-10).

In re claims 7 and 20, Hubacher discloses severing the conductive path at a point outside the die.

In re claims 8 and 13, Hubacher discloses wherein at least one test pad is of a sufficient size so as to be accessible by a testing apparatus (col. 7, lines 31-42).

In re claims 21 and 27, Hubacher discloses wherein at least one of the plurality of test pads (FIG. 10, 28) is larger in size than the at least one of the plurality of input bond pads (FIG. 10, 34).

In re claim 12, Hubacher discloses the die being surround by a non-conducting scribe area on the wafer, wherein the portion of the conductive path is formed on the non-conducting scribe area (col. 5, line 14 to col. 7, line 42 and FIGS. 4-10).

In re claim 26, Hubacher discloses wherein portion of each of the conductive lines is severed when the die is separated from the wafer.

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Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Khiem D Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 306-0210. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (8:00 AM - 5:00 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Olik Chaudhuri can be reached on (703) 306-2794. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 746-9179 for regular communications and (703) 746-9179 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

K.N.
August 5, 2003


Olik Chaudhuri
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2800